

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15
ACDA-12 TRSE-00 OMB-01 AID-05 /090 W
-----104457 032335Z /73

R 031415Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7376
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS

UNCLAS NICOSIA 0584

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGSC PGOV, CY, US
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU'S LETTER TO PRESIDENT CARTER
REVEALED IN CYPRIOT PRESS

REF: A. NICOSIA 566 (NOTAL), B. NICOSIA 565 (NOTAL)
C. NICOSIA 562

1. GOC-INSPIRED STORIES ON PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU'S LETTER
TO PRESIDENT CARTER (REF B) APPEARED IN ALL GREEK CYPRIOT
DAILIES MARCH 3, REVEALING SUBJECT OF MESSAGE AS GOC
CONCERN OVER ARMS EMBARGO AND LINKING PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU'S
DEMARCHE WITH UPCOMING TRIP TO U.S. BY HOUSE PRESIDENT MICHAEL-
IDES. TYPICAL OF PRESS COVERAGE WAS ENGLISH-LANGUAGE
CYPRUS MAIL STORY CARRIED UNDER HEADLINE "ARMS EMBARGO:
MESSAGE SENT TO CARTER." TEXT IS QUOTED BELOW.

2. BEGIN TEXT: PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU YESTERDAY SENT A
PERSONAL MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT CARTER THROUGHT THE AMERICAN
AMBASSADOR IN NICOSIA MR. WILLIAM CRAWFORD.

ALTHOUGH THE TEXT OF THE MESSAGE WAS NOT RELEASED IT
WAS RELIABLY LEARNED THAT THE PRESIDENT SETS OUT THE
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CYPRUS GOVERNMENT'S VIEWS ON THE QUESTION OF THE U.S.
ARMS EMBARGO AGAINST TURKEY.

THIS FOLLOWS REPORTED MOVES TO DISASSOCIATE THE PROPOSED
ONE BILLION DOLLAR DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT (DCA)
FROM PROGRESS ON CYPRUS.

PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU REFERRED TO MOVES TO LIFT THE EMBARGO IN HIS INVESTITURE SPEECH LAST TUESDAY WHEN HE SAID THAT "A POSSIBLE LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO OR ITS DISASSOCIATION FROM THE CYPRUS PROBLEM" WOULD HAVE MOST ADVERSE CONSEQUENCES AND CREATE "NON-FRIENDLY FEELING BOTH IN GREECE AND CYPRUS TOWARDS THE UNITED STATES."

IT WAS ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY THAT HOUSE PRESIDENT MR. ALECOS MICHAELIDES, WHO WILL BE VISITING THE UNITED STATES IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS, WILL BE CARRYING MESSAGES FROM PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU TO LEADING AMERICANS.

MR. MICHAELIDES WILL ADDRESS A TWO-DAY MEETING OF REPRESENTATIVES OF GREEK AMERICAN ORGANIZATIONS IN WASHINGTON.

THE HOUSE PRESIDENT WHO ON WEDNESDAY HAD A MEETING WITH U.S. AMBASSADOR MR. CRAWFORD, HAS ALSO ACCEPTED AN INVITATION TO SPEAK BEFORE THE INFLUENTIAL INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COUNCIL IN CHICAGO.

DURING HIS STAY MR. MICHAELIDES WILL ALSO HAVE A SERIES OF CONTACTS WITH U.S. GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.

DURING A RECENT SPEECH THE HOUSE PRESIDENT, STRESSED
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THAT THE CYPRUS PROBLEM WAS GOING THROUGH A MOST CRITICAL PHASE AND EVERY EFFORT WOULD BE MADE TO PREVENT THE CREATION OF FALSE IMPRESSIONS THAT WOULD HELP THE REMOVAL OF THE U.S. ARMS EMBARGO.

UNDER A DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE U.S. AND TURKEY, THE LATTER WOULD RECEIVE ARMS AID OF ONE BILLION DOLLARS OVER FOUR YEARS AND THE U.S. WOULD GET BACK THE USE OF MILITARY BASES CLOSED BY THE TURKS IN 1975.

THE AGREEMENT HAS BEEN HELD UP FOR MORE THAN TWO YEARS BECAUSE CONGRESS HAD REFUSED TO RATIFY IT UNTIL TURKEY MAKES SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS TOWARDS A SETTLEMENT OF THE CYPRUS PROBLEM.

RECENT REPORTS HAVE SUGGESTED THAT PRESIDENT CARTER PLANS TO ASK CONGRESS TO APPROVE THE AGREEMENT LATER THIS MONTH THOUGH OFFICIALLY WASHINGTON DENIES ANY COMMITMENT IN THIS RESPECT. END TEXT.
CRAWFORD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESIDENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978NICOSI00584
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780098-0475
Format: TEL
From: NICOSIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197803109/aaaadozi.tel
Line Count: 115
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 139224b9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 NICOSIA 566, 78 NICOSIA 565, 78 NICOSIA 562
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3125852
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU'S LETTER TO PRESIDENT CARTER REVEALED IN CYPRIOT PRESS
TAGS: PGOV, CY, US, (KYPRIANOU, SPYROS)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/139224b9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014